GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6089
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2001
IMPORT/EXPORT OF AGRO-PRODUCTS
RATNA SINGH;UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the agriculture related items and machinery which can be imported/exported freely with the imposition of some duties separately;

(b) the quantity of agro-products imported and exported during each of the last three years and the value of foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the countries to which the agro-products have been exported; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to increase the exports of agro-products?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) to (d) : At present, import of agricultural machinery is allowed freely. However, import of major agricultural products like wheat, rice, copra, edible oil is allowed only through State Trading Enterprises(STE).Similarly, export of onion, niger seeds, Gum karaya are permitted through STEs. Export of wheat and wheat products, Grain and flour of Barley, Maize, Ragi & Jowar, Sugar, Pure Milk Butter etc. are permitted for export subject to Quantitative ceilings to be released by Directorate General of Foreign Trade.Export of pulses, except those in consumer packs upto 5 kg., is restricted. Details of quantity of certain major agro products imported into the country and exported out of the country(Qty. & value) during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto December, 2000) are indicated in the Annexures I & II respectively.These agro-products have been exported mainly to Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Italy, Russia, Sweden, Nepal, UK, Germany FR, Iran, Hungary, USA, Spain and Switzerland.

In order to increase agricultural exports further the government has initiated various export promotion schemes and has been providing financial assistance through various Boards and Councils for enhancing production and productivity, preservation of and improvement in quality, development of packaging, improvement of infrastructure and other measures to facilitate exports of all agricultural products to meet the high standards expected in international markets of such products that are traded. In the Export and Import policy announced on 31.03.2001, a new chapter has been added for setting up of Agricultural Export Zones, providing for the facility of duty free import of capital goods, inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, packing material etc.

ANNEXURE I TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6089 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27.04.2001

QUANTITY OF MAJOR AGRO PRODUCTS IMPORTED INTO INDIA

(Qty. in tones)

Item	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (upto Dec.2000)
Wheat	1803700	690400	3986
Rice	5654	27602	8230
Other cereal	2024	181159	30006
Cereal preparation	38452	9047	18487
Pulses	563602	203986	206106
Milk and cream	1836	17753	915
Cashew nuts	243347	200584	201287
Spices	61124	29671	45097
Sugar	900471	1114940	22882

Natural rubber 29534 16436 7680
Jute, raw 99464 140837 40496
Vegetables and animal fats 1464 15804 878
Cotton raw & waste 57396 236139 187985

[DGCI&S, Calcutta]

ANNEXURE II TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6089 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27.04.2001

QUANTITY & VALUE OF MAJOR AGRO PRODUCTS EXPORTED FROM INDIA

(Value in Rs. lakhs) (Qty. in tones)

Items	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001(upto Dec. 2000)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Wheat	1763	135.79	20	1.75	795	53.80
Rice Basmati	597793	187690.92	606468	173593.99	638434	158377.64
Rice other	4365888	440364.53	1216681	136943.05	407157	51792.12
Other cereal	9527	868.36	7578	513.93	26880	2586.89
Pulses	104096	22302.64	18228	40492.17	180513	41037.42
Cashew nuts shell liquid	1892	412.88	754	216.33	1194	189.64
Cashew	77277	162746.66	92461	245144.77	59849	139293.57
Fruits & vegetable seeds	4948	6457.89	6947	6730.91	4963	3718.84
Spices	209828	163252.05	195793	170192.04	167325	112071.06
Sugar	12735	1735.93	7043	1076.54	183683	25315.80
Jute yarn	69809	17943.58	65785	17752.99	63691	16531.57
Jute hessian	65132	19901.95	56111	18646.79	32108	11725.35
Ground nut	58325	13966.28	73244	18322.70	69893	17521.73

[DGCI&S, Calcutta]